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TRANSMITTAL SHEETDATE: 5 May 2003TO: UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTN: Examiner: Sean E. Conley Art Unit: 1744RE: Serial No.: 09/538,821NO.: 703-872-9310

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Paper No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): Douglas W. Morck et al.

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING OUTBREAKS OF  
DIFFUSE LAMELLAR KERATITIS**

Serial No.: 09/538,821 ✓

Filed: 03/30/2000 ✓

Examiner: Sean E. Conley Art Unit: 1744

Date: 5 May, 2003

To: The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C.  
20231

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

Responsive to the Office Action mailed 11/05/2002 as extended by the accompanying petition for a three-month extension, kindly amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Kindly cancel claims 13 through 37 without prejudice to the filing of one or more divisional applications.

Cancel claims 2, 3 and 9-12.

Replace claim 1 with the following amended claim 1:

1.(Once Amended) An apparatus for reducing outbreaks of aseptic inflammations of the eye resulting from eye surgery comprising a sterilizer for sterilizing medical instruments with steam comprising a housing containing a steam generator supplied by a dispensing pump and a sterilization container for containing said medical instruments, and further